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Recommendations and Problems, Monthly Reports for the Month of

August 1957

CARTOGRAPHY DIVISION

USSR-SATELLITES COMPILATION BRANCH

From the OBI requests for changes on their reproduction memoranda it appears that OBI is altering its thinking on the use of color for both text figures and insert maps. If these reflect significant changes in their thinking in recent months then there should be an informal meeting confirming such change. The changes seem over-all to be in a desirable direction.

MAP LIBRARY DIVISION

None reported

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

None reported

GEOGRAPHY DIVISION

IV. PROBLEMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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25X1A9a

25X1A6a The Europe Branch presents the following: When [REDACTED] will investigate the possibilities of Geographic Area personnel being assigned [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] There is a wealth of information available in the field that is essential to us in UW, E and E, and similar type studies. It will never be made available to us until a geographer is on the spot to obtain and process it. The preoccupation with economic information of the ORR representatives [REDACTED]

25X1A6a [REDACTED] is such that little or no geographic data is forwarded unless it is incidental to some economic reporting or is the result of efforts of ORR geographers on TDY. A geographer should be assigned [REDACTED] possibly [REDACTED] team for administrative purposes but his job description should be written so that he would not be tied down and limited to duties [REDACTED]

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building. He should be able to move between [REDACTED] as necessary. Furthermore, if the Area is to assume duties as envisaged in "Geographic Central Support Services in Wartime," presented during Operation Alert, the Area should have a group of people familiar with the operation of an outpost and the working relationships between the various components in the field, who are available to assume field positions in the event of an emergency.

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An OCI Digest article on [REDACTED] on Antarctica, published without coordination with the Geography Division, was the cause of some embarrassment to [REDACTED] at a Working Group Meeting when he was asked to comment on the article, which he had not seen and with which he did not agree.

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[REDACTED] reports that higher level representation of DD/I interests to DD/P will be required in order to step up planning for the [REDACTED] of Soviet activities, particularly after the IGY, when it appears likely that [REDACTED] will be closed out as a US base. Throughout the entire process of CIA participation in the planning of Antarctic operations, constant reference has been made to CIA interests for adequate reflection in planning. This has been somewhat difficult for a DD/I representative who is faced with the fact that WH has no particular personal interest in any surveillance over areas so far removed from Palmer Peninsula, and SR has no interest because they have more than enough to do with domestic USSR.

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Far East Branch personnel feel that the DD/I/RR Vacancy Listings would be of greater value and would be more favorably regarded by ORR personnel if all DD/I position vacancies were listed. For example, what about the following recent position vacancies:

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[REDACTED] it is recommended that all position vacancies be included in the listings, or, alternatively, that a policy statement be issued to clarify why some positions are not listed.

The Near East/Africa Branch again calls attention to a bottleneck in receipt of documents and an apparent misunderstanding of function in connection with CSS. Attention is directed to a conversation between a CSS person and a member of GG/N wherein surprise was expressed that material of interest to CSS is wanted. It was implied that "in the usual conduct of mapping activities of the Geographic Area there should be no need for current despatch material of interest to CSS." The CSS person was thoroughly briefed on D/GG interests.

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GEOGRAPHY DIVISION

COORDINATION STAFF

Two people now comprise the Coordination Staff. The Deputy Chief is coordinating Chapter IX of Argentina, which is a large study and is due at OBI in November. The Chief will prepare Sections 19 for NIS 22 and NIS 30 (due in OBI in September and October, respectively) and will attempt to carry on some of the coordination of Chapter IX of NIS 29^M during the same period. If the November deadline for the Chapter IX of NIS 29^M is to be met, the material must be fully coordinated and in typing by 1 November, at the latest. No clerical help is presently assigned to the staff.

STAFF [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

We feel that, to date, the G Area has been too prone to watch with academic detachment while the territorial studies rug moves from under foot.

Could the ORR Diary be revitalized and made representative of ORR? If not, we would just as soon see it discontinued.

EDITING AND REVIEW STAFF

25X1A9a The major problem at present is the securing of a replacement for [REDACTED]. Since two of the Staff members are geographers, it might be advisable to look for a technically trained editor who could relieve the senior editors of some of the time-consuming routine work.

For the first time in several years, a manuscript has remained in the GG/R backlog for as much as one week. In addition, a number of other manuscripts are in various stages of editing or review. Until these can be cleared up, the editors will have to rely heavily upon the author analysts and the typing staff for proof reading. High-priority jobs will continue to take precedence over all other work.

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The contents of GR-53 has been drawn up and the final article will be circulated among the Branch Chiefs for review on 3 September. Since two of the articles, though relatively short, are of considerable current significance, the issue as a whole will have to receive top priority in editing, typing, and final review, as well as in Reproduction. The article on plastic relief maps by [REDACTED] which was dropped as lead article for MR-51, will be included in MR-53, where the general character of the article will be balanced by other highly timely articles. This is in accord with the advice of Ch/G to the editors.

GR-160, Transborder Routes from the Indian Subcontinent to Sinkiang and Tibet, was originally planned for distribution to the requester only. Because of its basic character, wider distribution seemed advisable. Since the preparation of complete sets of maps for additional copies was impossible, only the index map was included and a map note was added to the table of contents stating that a complete set of maps was available for reference in the Map Library.

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